



## **Restaurant Row/Festival Street Gateway Sculpture Project**

### **REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS**

The City of Bloomington, through the Bloomington Entertainment and Arts District (BEAD), is seeking an artist or artist team to create a unique, durable, site-specific artwork to act as an informal gateway to the BEAD's Restaurant Row Character District, the 4<sup>th</sup> Street Arts and Crafts Festival Street, and the Indiana University campus. The artwork budget is \$25,000 and the deadline to submit proposals for consideration is November 18, 2011.

#### **Request for Proposals**

Deadline: November 18, 2011

Artwork budget: \$25,000

#### **SPECIFIC PROJECT GOALS & VALUES**

To commission a signature work of art that:

- Captures the unique essence of the Bloomington community
- Reflects the values, aesthetics and major activities of the 4<sup>th</sup> Street Character District of BEAD
- Embodies a standard of excellence
- Represents enduring, and not transitory, artistic concepts

The artwork must be durable, low maintenance, engineered and installed in accordance to approved safety standards, appropriate to the location, and able to weather Bloomington's climate. No expectation should be made that the artwork will be kept secure – design and fabrication must take into account the likelihood of unsupervised viewer interaction.

The use of recycled and/or repurposed materials is encouraged.

#### **SITE**

The designated site(s) for the artwork is on 4<sup>th</sup> Street adjacent to the intersection with Lincoln Street. Both the north and south sides of the street are eligible sites (see Appendix 1 for attached map and images for additional clarification.) Respondents may choose to interpret "gateway" in one of the following ways:

- A single artwork on either the north or south side

- Two (or more) artworks on both the north and the south side that respond to one another
- A span across 4<sup>th</sup> Street. Note: any span must be a minimum of 17' from the street at the lowest point of the sculpture and at least 18" from the street

The installation of specialized “bump-outs” may be possible to accommodate artwork site requirements.

### **ABOUT THE RESTAURANT ROW/4<sup>TH</sup> STREET FESTIVAL STREET AREA**

This culturally rich area is located just blocks from Indiana University and is home to Restaurant Row and the annual 4<sup>th</sup> Street Festival of Arts and Crafts.

Restaurant Row is the section of East 4th Street easily identified by the many ethnic restaurants that have transformed traditional bungalow homes into destination eateries. Tibet, India, Thailand, France, Italy, Greece, Ethiopia - these are just a few of the world cuisines that can be sampled in Restaurant Row. For more information on Restaurant Row, including a listing of restaurants and photographs visit: [http://visitbead.com/facets/viewFacet.php?facet\\_id=37](http://visitbead.com/facets/viewFacet.php?facet_id=37).

Each Labor Day weekend, 4th Street is transformed as part of the 4th Street Festival of the Arts and Crafts. Since 1977, the festival has grown to include artists from all around the country. Artists sell fine hand-crafted works of art from booths along the street while nearby restaurants open their doors to visitors from all over. Photographs and information on the Fourth Street Festival can be found at <http://sites.google.com/site/4thstreetfestival/>.

4th Street is also home to Fire Station No. 1, Bloomington's fire headquarters which is immediately adjacent to the site(s) identified for the artwork.

### **BUDGET**

The public art fund budget available for the Gateway Sculpture Project is \$25,000 which includes all estimated costs, including artist fees, fabrication, insurance, shipping, transportation, installation and documentation of the work. The City of Bloomington will be responsible for site preparation including, but not limited to, ground preparation, pad construction, footers and installation of anchor bolts or other reinforcing materials.

### **ARTIST ELIGIBILITY**

All visual artists 18 years of age and older who are current residents of the State of Indiana are invited to submit proposals. Artists new to the public art process are encouraged to apply. City of Bloomington employees, City of Bloomington Arts Commission members or their committee members are not eligible to apply.

### **ARTIST SELECTION CRITERIA**

Applicants must demonstrate the following qualifications and qualities:

- Demonstrated successful creative, innovative, and effective approach in comparable projects
- Excellent communication skills
- Ability to understand a locale's sense of place, and design in a context-sensitive manner

- Understanding of the appropriate use of materials for the site requirements
- Openness to working collaboratively with the project team members, and City staff
- Ability to successfully complete a project of this scale

## **SELECTION PROCESS**

The Selection Panel will consist of one representative appointed by the City of Bloomington Community Arts Commission, one representative appointed by the Office of the Mayor and two at-large appointments by the Assistant Economic Development Director for the Arts.

The Selection Panel will review the proposals and conduct interviews, and an artist/artist team will be selected. The selected artist/artist team will be put under contract to refine their design for the project. With final design approval, the artwork will be fabricated by the artist/artist team and installed in coordination with City staff.

In the event it is decided that no proposal submitted is suitable, this RFP may be extended, revised or cancelled to serve the best interests of the City of Bloomington, Indiana.

## **PROPOSAL SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS & INSTRUCTIONS**

Proposal materials may be submitted electronically or via hard copy no later than 5:00pm on November 18, 2011.

To submit electronically, all required documentation should be submitted as a .zip file. No other forms of electronic submission will be accepted. For information on how to compress files into a .zip file, please visit <http://office.microsoft.com/en-us/infopath-help/zip-or-unzip-a-file-HA001127690.aspx>.

Electronic submissions should be emailed to Miah Michaelsen at [michaelm@bloomington.in.gov](mailto:michaelm@bloomington.in.gov).

Although electronic submission is strongly preferred, hard copies of proposal materials may also be sent to:  
 Miah Michaelsen  
 Assistant Economic Development Director for the Arts  
 Department of Economic and Sustainable Development, City of Bloomington  
 401 N. Morton St., Suite 130  
 Bloomington, IN 47404

In the case of hard-copy submissions, images should be submitted on CD. See “4. **Images**” below for image submission specifications.

### **1. Letter of Interest**

Please summarize your qualifications and qualities relevant to the project. Entire letter should be no longer than one (1) typed page.

### **2. Conceptual & Material Approach to the Project**

On no more than one page, please outline your likely conceptual approach to the project, including what types of materials you might use to implement your concept. Drawings are not necessary, but if included,

should be submitted on 8 1/2 x 11 paper, with no more than two pages.

### **3. Professional Resume**

Please outline your experience as an artist (no longer than four (4) typed pages). In the case of a team application, please include resumes for each team member.

### **4. Digital Images**

JPEG images (10 to 20) of past work should be submitted in priority order of desired presentation. Images should have maximum dimensions of 800 x 600 pixels and minimum dimensions of 720 x 480 pixels. Installations or three-dimensional work may be illustrated by multiple images. Images should be labeled in order of presentation as follows: LastnameFirstname-1.jpg; LastnameFirstname-2.jpg; LastnameFirstname-3.jpg; etc.

**Electronic** submissions should include images as part of the submission .zip file.

**Hard-copy** submissions should be on a PC compatible CD and clearly labeled in permanent ink with the artist's name and contact information.

### **5. Annotated Image List (required for either slide or digital image submission)**

The annotated image list must correspond with the order of the images to be shown and must include the following information: artist's name, title of artwork, medium, size, date of artwork completion, location and any project details such as budget, commissioning agency, etc. If sending a CD of digital images, please provide this image list in a Word or PDF file on the CD.

### **6. Professional References**

Please provide the names and contact information of three individuals with whom you have worked or who have commissioned your work in the past. Actual letters of reference are not required.

### **7. Optional**

Up to three (3) selections of support materials such as reviews, news articles, and other related information may be included.

### **8. Self-Addressed Stamped Envelope (SASE)**

Please provide a SASE for the return of slides or CD. Submissions without the SASE will not be returned.

## **SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS**

Electronic submissions should be emailed to Miah Michaelsen at [michaelm@bloomington.in.gov](mailto:michaelm@bloomington.in.gov).

Hard copy submissions should be grouped in this order.

1. Letter of interest
2. Design Proposal
3. Resume
4. Annotated Image List
5. Names of References
6. Optional Material

Do not send your sole CD copy of images. The City of Bloomington is not responsible for lost or

damaged items.

Photographs and web sites may not be substituted for images.

Do not send any materials not specifically requested as part of this application, such as proposals or original artwork, catalogs, etc.

Mail packets to:

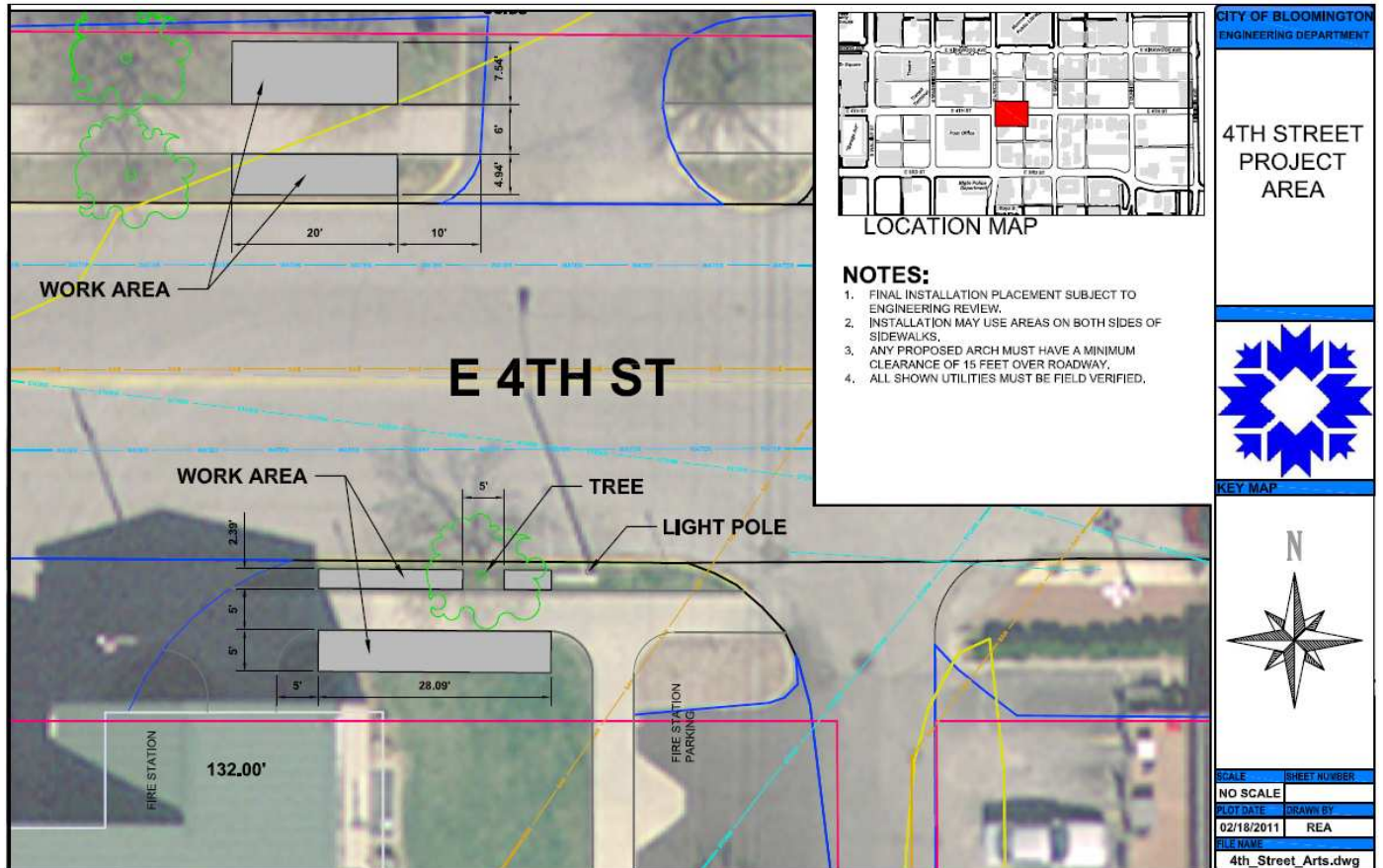
Miah Michaelsen  
Assistant Economic Development Director for the Arts  
401 N. Morton St., Suite 130  
Bloomington, IN 47404

**Proposals received after 5:00 p.m., November 18, 2011, will not be considered.**

**For additional information, please contact Miah Michaelsen at (812) 349-3534 or [michaelm@bloomington.in.gov](mailto:michaelm@bloomington.in.gov).**

# APPENDIX 1

## Gateway Project Area





## Photographs of the Installation Site

